

JUDGE BOTTS GIVES BOND ISSUE PLAN

Judge W. W. Botts, Audrain County's Representative, sends the following reply to the Missouri Good Roads Federation concerning his position towards the \$60 million bond issue for Missouri.

Mexico, Mo., Dec. 2, 1920.
Mr. Roy F. Britton,
Chairman Missouri Good Roads Federation.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir:—
Inclosed please find my answer to your questionnaire regarding the distribution of the funds to be derived from the \$60,000,000 bond issue voted by the people at the last election.

This bond issue is merely authoritative and not obligatory upon the legislature. I feel that unless certain conditions and requirements are incorporated into the law authorizing the bond issue, I will be justified in voting against it.

I knew that many people voted for the issue, under the impression that it would entail no additional property tax; that the automobile license would retire the bonds, both principal and interest, as they mature. If there is a full issue of Sixty Million Dollars, the Auto tax will not pay the interest, much less the principal, unless there is an enormous increase. Of that we have no assurance and see no prospect.

I shall therefore favor holding the amount of the issue down to the lowest possible figure, and to that end make the following suggestion.

That each county be required to furnish about one fourth of the money required to build any state road located in that county. This to be provided by the county at large.

That the county courts of each county be authorized and required to raise at least one fourth of the money required for each project in its county by a special tax on the property that will be specially benefited by the improvement.

Until these two conditions are complied with there should be no state roads built in any county. The proportions may be wrong but the principle is right.

Look at the situation. The state is proposing to build perhaps two highways clear through each county in the state. These counties will each receive a considerable benefit from the improvements that the state at large will not receive. Again the property along the line of these state roads will be enormously increased in value. Towns on the line of these roads will be benefited, while towns not on them will be actually injured. Farms, many of them in every county, will be ten or more miles from any of the proposed roads. We should do justice as far as possible in spending this money, and where is the justice in taxing a man ten miles from a road as heavily for improving it, as you tax the man whose property abuts on it or is only one mile away?

Respectfully,
W. W. BOTTS.

Gale Johnston Buys Controlling Interest In Intelligencer

Gale Johnston, editor of the Mexico Intelligencer, has purchased the stock of Fred A. Morris and W. R. Jackson, in the publishing company, and now owns a majority in interest in the publication.

Since coming to Mexico three years ago Mr. Johnston has made a host of friends and the Ledger is delighted that he will continue to direct the destinies of our contemporary. Mr. Johnston is a gentleman, professionally and personally, a young man of fine habits and ability.

The transfer of the interests in the business were made Saturday.

Birthday Dinner.

There was a combined birthday dinner given at Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Wright at 1002 W. Mansfield Street on Sunday, Dec. 5. The dinner was in honor first of Mrs. Mary Howard of Mexico and second of all the relatives that had a birthday in December. There were 29 present and 8 of the 29 had a birthday in this month. After an enjoyable day and everybody was ready to depart to their respective homes. They played and sang "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again." There were 4 out of town guests present.

ED DICKEY KILLED BY TRAIN FRIDAY

Edward Dickey, of Centralia, 25 years old, was struck by Wabash passenger train No. 20, about 10:30 Friday morning, while crossing the Wabash tracks in Thompson, 7 miles west of here, in a Ford car, and died shortly after being brought to the Audrain County hospital as a result of his injuries.

Dickey, with his wife and two sons, 3 years old and 18 months old, have been visiting Mrs. Dickey's father, J. A. Given, near Thompson. He was driving into Thompson to do some work on a car when the accident happened. His head was badly injured and the train which struck him stopped, brought him to this city, where he was taken to the hospital and given immediate medical attention. However his injuries were such that shortly after his arrival here he was dead.

Mr. Dickey at one time ran a blacksmith shop in Thompson. Besides his family he is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Dickey, of near Thompson and ten brothers and sisters. He was popular with all who knew him and a young man of good habits and a hard worker. He never regained consciousness after being struck. It is thought he did not hear the train approaching.

A sister of Mr. Dickey, Miss Rubey Dickey, is a sophomore at McMillan High School in this city.

The Ledger joins the many friends of the family in extending deepest sympathy.

Ten Per Cent Of Audrain County's Taxes In By Dec. 1

About ten per cent of the county taxes have been turned in by December 1, according to C. P. Arnold, county collector. The value of Audrain county's taxes is over \$276,000 and about \$38,289 have been collected so far. All of the taxes are supposed to be in by January 1. At that time, those not yet paid are penalized five per cent, and one per cent more for each month until they are paid.

Last year at this time, a little over \$35,000 had been collected. At the rate the money is being turned in, over \$8,000 will have to be turned in each day, to have the total amount in by January 1.

Probate Judges To Meet in Mexico Next Year

Judge E. A. Shannon, of the Audrain County Probate Court, was elected secretary and treasurer of the Probate Judges organization of Missouri at a state meeting in Jefferson City Tuesday. This is a deserved honor as Judge Shannon is making one of the best officials of his kind in the state.

The sixth annual meeting of the Association of Probate Judges of Missouri was held at Jefferson City Monday and Tuesday of this week. E. A. Shannon, probate judge of Audrain County, attended the meeting and succeeded in getting the meeting to Mexico for next year.

The meeting was held in the House of Representatives in Jefferson City. About eighty-five of the one hundred fourteen members were present. Addresses were made by Sam A. Baker, state superintendent of schools, Frank W. McAllister, attorney-general of Missouri, and others.

DR. COIL WINS CASE

The case of Grover Beatty against Dr. P. E. Coil for \$15,000 damages was decided in favor of the defendant. Beatty was suing Doctor P. E. Coil for alleged damages in the amputation of his leg in not leaving enough skin for the wound to heal so that an artificial limb could be worn.

Mrs. Xury Fisher and daughter, Miss Christina Fisher, who have been quite sick the past week, are some better.

We are glad to hear that the little son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Senior is well after an attack of pneumonia.

Audrain's Hospital

Within a few days the Audrain County Hospital will be ready for occupancy.

It is one of the finest and most modernly equipped institutions of its kind in the entire country.

It stands for all time as a monument to the progressive spirit and humanitarian ideals of the people of Audrain county.

Audrain county was the first in the state of Missouri to take advantage of the law allowing counties to bond themselves for the erection of such an institution.

There are many things that make us proud of Audrain county and this splendid hospital is one of them.

L. M. White

HOWARD JOHNSON EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF MOM ANNUAL

At the election of annual officers of the McMillan High School Tuesday, Howard Johnson was chosen editor-in-chief. The following are the officers elected:

Associate Editor—Minnie Marshall
Art Editor—Leon Hansel
Business Manager—Earl Precht
Athletic Editor—Landon Smith
Activity Editor—Betsy Worrell
Joke Editor—Marle Crigler
Assistant Art Editor—Alice Graham

Treasurer—Berenice Weinand.
Secretary—Helen Morris.
Junior Associate Editor—Betty Wilson.

Junior Associate Business Manager—Carroll Glover.

Miss Welch and A. Gorrell have been chosen sponsors for the annual, which will be called "The McMillan." The book will have about one hundred pages, and will contain individual cuts of the seniors, and group cuts of the other classes. The book will sell for not less than \$3.50. There will be a meeting today of the officers and sponsors to decide on the binding, engraving, and other things not yet decided upon.

Methodist Church Puts Up Membership Flag Sunday

A membership flag was put up in the Methodist Church Sunday, with a blue star representing each new member of the church since the beginning of the conference year September 1. The flag is of white silk with a blue cross in the left hand corner, and was made by Miss Ollie Taylor, secretary to the Rev. W. C. Cowart and J. W. Howell, treasurer of the church.

At present, the flag has thirty-one stars, the number of new members taken into the church since September 1. The latest new member is Mrs. A. L. Branlock, who united with the church Sunday.

TO CONVENTION

Monday and Tuesday, December 6 and 7, will be the annual convention of probate judges of Missouri at Jefferson City. E. A. Shannon of Mexico will attend as the representative of Audrain County. The convention will be held in the House of Representatives.

Mr. McAllister, attorney-general will address the judges on the administration of the inheritance tax law, and Mr. Berry will give a general discussion on the law. Mayor Rappello of Jefferson City and Tom Dumm of the Chamber of Commerce will give addresses of welcome.

Two Mexico boys, Curtis Mitchell and W. W. Johnson, will be contestants for the fifty dollar cash prize given in honor of Major Dobyns for the Westminster College student who wins the annual oratorical contest. There are six other contestants.

Mrs. King Senior and son, King, of Sturgeon were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Senior on West Love street Sunday and Monday.

Dr. J. G. Moore is home from Fulton where he attended a medical meeting Thursday.

Mr. Ray Miller, of Ponca City, Okla., is the guest of her parents, Dr.

REV. RICHARD GENTRY GOES TO CALIFORNIA

The Rev. Richard Gentry, pastor of the Mexico Christian church, has resigned to accept the pastorate of the Christian church at Covina, Calif. He expects to leave this city with his family for the west about the middle of January. Mr. Gentry's new pastorate will not only pay him an increase in salary but has made other substantial concessions.

He came to this city in September 1919 and is one of the most popular and strongest ministers in every particular, that Mexico ever had. He has been interested in public matters as well as religious and the Ledger joins the people if this city, regardless of creed, in regretting his and his family's departure.

Covina is near Los Angeles, splendidly located in the orange growing section of the state and is ideal climate. The fact that his family's health would be better there had as much as anything else in making his decision. The Ledger joins in wishing Mr. Gentry and his family much happiness and continued success in their new home.

HUBERT FENNEWALD DIES

Hubert M. Fennwald of Martinsburg died Tuesday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon after a week's illness. He was 66 years old. The funeral will be at the Catholic Church at Martinsburg Thursday morning at 9 o'clock. Burial will be in the Catholic Cemetery there.

Mr. Fennwald had been a resident of Martinsburg for 41 years and was well known as a prominent stockman and farmer.

He leaves one brother, Barney Fennwald of Martinsburg, his wife, and ten children, Mrs. James Boehlin, Mrs. Louis Albrecht, Miss Anna Fennwald, Sister Griesella of Notre Dame Sisters, all of St. Louis, Miss Rose Fennwald, Anthony Aloys, Lawrence, Charles and Mindolph Fennwald of Martinsburg. The Ledger extends deepest sympathy to the family.

CLAUDE FRISBY IN- JURED AT WELLS- VILLE CLAY MINE

Claude Frisby, 25 years old, who is employed by the Missouri Utilities Company at Wellsville was seriously injured at the clay mine at Wellsville Tuesday evening. He was brought to the Amanda Hospital Tuesday night.

Frisby was on a hand car, and was going out of the yards at Wellsville. There was a piece of half-inch pipe on the tracks, and when the hand car struck the pipe, it flew up, and struck Frisby just above the knee, entering at the front of the leg, and coming out at the back.

According to reports from the hospital Wednesday morning, Frisby is getting along all right.

Charles Carpenter formerly of this city, was up from St. Louis Tuesday, to attend the funeral of Mrs. J. W. Dry.

Mrs. Victor Muff, Gracie Muff and Edna Statan of Bowling Green spent Monday in Mexico.

A. W. Martin of Martinsburg was in Mexico Thursday on business.

ED. LAWDER HURT IN COLLISION OF CAR WITH TEAM

Ed Lawder, who lives about a mile and a half east of Mexico, was injured Wednesday evening about 5:15 o'clock on East Promenade street, when the car which he was driving ran into a wagon drawn by a team of mules and belonging to Pollock's mill.

Mr. Lawder was cut and bruised on the face and hands, but as yet, there are no signs of internal injuries. He was unconscious for about a half hour. He was thrown through the wind shield. The tongue of the wagon went all the way through the radiator. One mule was killed instantly, and the other had to be shot. The car was badly damaged.

Mr. Lawder was taken to the home of Wm. Rose, and was later taken to the Audrain Hospital. Thursday morning, he was reported as resting well. It is feared Mr. Lawder has lost the sight of one eye and that the other may be affected. His nose was badly mashed and he is said to have had a very narrow escape from death.

Mr. Becker who was driving the team for Pollock's mill, was thrown from the wagon, and was badly bruised and cut. He was not seriously injured.

15 Per Cent of City Tax Col- lected So Far

The taxes for the city of Mexico amount this year to \$27,103.65. According to J. D. McKee, city collector. Of this amount, the following has been collected: Lands for 1920—\$1,506.81; personal—\$636.56; poll—\$61.50; library—\$424.39; tank—\$446.53 and light \$990.00 which makes a total of \$4,065.78. This is almost 15 per cent of the total amount to be paid. According to Mr. McKee, the tax money will begin coming in better from December 15 to January 1. After that time, they become delinquent, and a five per cent increase is added the first month, which increases one per cent more each month that the taxes remain unpaid.

The total taxes to be paid are as follows: Land, \$8,499.93 poll, \$1420; personal, \$6,306.16; tank, \$3,210.74; light, \$6422.24; and library, \$2304.58.

HAVE PROGRAM

The Athenaeum Literary Society of McMillan High School, under the leadership of Miss Nelle Hall, gave a stunt program Wednesday morning.

The program follows: Dr. Quick stunt, Bill Botts, doctor and Paul Hutcherson and Geraldine Brown, patients; Honey-mooners, Ryland Pearl; Neath the Crust of the Old Apple Pie, song by Leola Ruth Turner, illustrated by George Neff; horus girls in pink and green, Pauline Collins, Ruth Rodhouse, Genelle Roberts, Dorothy Barrett, Carol Hollingsworth, Nancy Bomar, Lucille Sword, Mary Catherine Morris and Norma Tolson; stuttering song by Mary Cordelia Mason and Russell Mildred; solo dance, Pauline Collins; and "The Burglar Beau" by Asa Johnson and Ruth Ridgeway.

FROM the number of people being killed in motor cars being struck by trains it is evident that something must be done toward making safe railroad crossings. In the East a great many crossings, especially those on main traveled highways are under the tracks which eliminates such a danger.

SOCRATES Sowers says he hopes history doesn't repeat itself for he would regret very much to think that in some future generation another man would have to spend his life fighting—at home—as he has had to do.

W. P. Hale of Martinsburg was in Mexico Thursday transacting business.

SOCRATES Sowers says Mrs. Sowers now has time to darn his socks instead of the Democratic party.

Miss Gladys Davis of La Junta, Colo., is visiting her aunt, Mrs. L. F. Austin.

SINCE the heavy frosts, Socrates Sowers says the trees are falling right into the latest feminine fashion.

GREAT CATTLE SALE HERE ON DEC. 16

J. P. Buckley and sons, B. A. and Ovid Buckley, will hold their sale of 60 fine Herefords in their farm, Sunny Valley stock farm, 8 miles north of this city on the Paris road, Thursday, December 16 starting at 12 o'clock noon. This will be one of the greatest sales of its kind held in the state this year. The sale will be held in a monster tent and if cold the tent will be heated. Motor cars will meet all trains and take prospective buyers to the farm. B. A. Buckley, who has charge of the Hereford cattle department of the American Breeder, is perhaps more familiar with the Hereford herds of this country than any one other man and he says the offers in this sale cannot be equalled for blood lines or herd foundation.

The Buckley's have been in the Hereford business since 1905 and their herd's foundation is mostly Anxiety stock. There will be two sons of Beau Blanchard, the greatest living bull, in the sale—this is the famous Gudge & Simpson blood lines. Mr. Buckley is anxious to have as many of the great animals sold remain in Audrain county as possible as he desires to see Audrain become a great Hereford center. Their experience will enable local buyers to have splendid facilities for carrying on the breeding, show their stock and sell it.

Col. Fred Reppert will cry the sale and you can secure a catalogue by writing or telephoning Mr. Buckley.

The sale includes daughters of Beau Dandy, Don Perfect 4th, Don Paladin, Beau Perfect 56th, Advertiser 13th, Beau Blanchard 15th, Royal Randolph, Beau Corrector, Disturber 4th, Harris Prince 5th, Paul Fairfax, Beau Fairfax, Keep On Fairfax, Beau Mischief 47th, Prince Brummel, Sir Simon 29th, Beau Apollo, and other equally well known bulls. Many are strong in the blood of the great Beau Donald and all are strong in the blood of Anxiety 4th.

They are only offering five bulls but among them are attractions that will appeal to any one wanting a herd bull. We especially mention two sons of the Great Beau Blanchard; Beau Blanchard 93d, a great junior yearling son of Beau Blanchard and out of a daughter of Domino, also Beau Blanchard 80th, an exceptional two-year-old out of a Beau Donald cow—the daughter of Imp. Ross. Do not overlook Sunny's Model by Sunny Prince and out of a Beau Donald cow—the best producing cow we ever owned.

MEXICO GETS \$2000 FROM ESTATE OF MAJOR WHITCOMB

An ordinance will be introduced for acceptance at the next council meeting of the bequests made to the city of Mexico by Frederick Whitcomb, deceased, for the erection of a drinking fountain in the public square and for a fund to provide premiums for the annual corn show.

One thousand dollars is given to Mexico to be kept on interest annually, and the interest to be given as a premium at the annual corn show.

One thousand dollars is given for the erection of a public drinking fountain, to be located on the southeast corner of the court house square. It is to be of Iron Mountain granite of rustic form, with the donor's name inscribed on the fountain, and the following inscription engraved on it: "Now Those Drink That Never Drank Before, and Those That Drank, Drink the More."

The funds for the gifts are now in the hands of F. W. Bickley, executor of Major Whitcomb's estate, and will be ready for payment about March 1, 1921.

M. J. Peyton of Wellsville spent Tuesday in Mexico.

James Shaw of Vandalia was a visitor in Mexico Wednesday.

Dr. D. T. Moore and bride are home from their bridal tour.

John S. Gatson of Vandalia was in Mexico Sunday for the day.

O. P. Brown of Luedonia was a business visitor in Mexico Saturday.

W. W. Pollock was in Fulton Wednesday on business.

CLOSE COURT LOOPHOLE IN NEW DECISION

JEFFERSON CITY, Dec. 3.—A "the", in some subordinate paragraph of the instructions of a trial court, so long the favorite artifice seized upon by a clever lawyer to obtain from the state supreme court a decision favoring a new trial for his client no more will "turn the trick."

That, in substance, was the ruling of the Missouri supreme court here Wednesday, at one point in a session which disposed of the largest number of criminal cases ever handled at a single sitting. Included were five cases of murder in the first degree with life imprisonment penalties attached, two of murder in the second degree, appealed, three appeals in bank robbery cases and a great variety of small offenses against the criminal laws. In all, thirty-six opinions in criminal appeals were filed.

It was in the case of the appeal of Eddie Adkins, convicted in Carroll County of killing Clete Bachtel, June 29, 1918, in a fight between neighbor boys, and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years, and the court annulled the ancient ruling, technical, but times honored, upon which many appeals in criminal cases have been reversed and remanded.

The Word "The" Unnecessary.

The indictment charging Adkins with the murder omitted the word "the" in the concluding paragraph of the indictment. Instead of reading "Against the peace and dignity of the state," the indictment read "Against peace and dignity of the state," the word "the" being overlooked. Since 1865, the supreme court has been holding such omissions to constitute reversible errors.

Although the appeal of Adkins is reversed and remanded because of faulty instructions by the trial court, no error assigned because of the omission in the indictment is held to be insufficient. In so deciding, the court has overruled a long line of decisions, dating back even before the adoption of the present constitution.

Dr. Berrey Health Commissioner For Audrain County

Under the new public health statute which recently became effective in Missouri, the state board of health has organized a modern state health department, which is similar to those which have proved successful in other states.

Under the passage of this statute and standardization of the department the secretary of state board of health commissioned, collaborating epidemiologist and the deputy state commissioner of health for the counties are commissioned assistant collaborating epidemiologists of the United States public health service. For Audrain County, Dr. R. W. Berrey is deputy state commissioner.

The law requires that each county court appoint a health officer, who will have jurisdiction over the entire county and who will be required to enforce the state regulations which are general.

The attending physician is responsible for the reporting of reportable disease, and his failure to do so is made a misdemeanor by law. The following is a list of the reportable diseases: anthrax, chicken pox, diphtheria, epidemic or septic sore throat, clauders, influenza, leprosy, measles, meningitis cerebro, spinal epidemic, mumps ophthalmia, neonatorum, plague, poliomyelitis acute anterior, rabies, scarlet fever, small pox, tetanus, trachoma, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, typhus fever, whooping cough, chancre, gonorrhea and syphilis.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

The schools of Mexico will be closed from ten days to two weeks for the Christmas holidays. The South Side and Central Schools and McMillan High School will close December 23 and reopen January 4. The Missouri Military Academy will close Friday, December 17, and reopen January 3. Hardin College will probably close at the same time as the academy and reopen January 4.

Don C. Carter of Sturgeon was a Mexico visitor Monday.

George A. Pollard of Sturgeon was a business visitor here Monday.